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Urban District of Wirksworth

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and

Sanitary Inspector

for the year

1949

W. S. G. Christie, M.B., Ch.B.
Medical Officer of Health

J. Taylor, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A
Sanitary Inspector

WIRKSWORTH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL:-

1949.

Chairman of Council:- Councillor J. F. Slater, J.P.
Vice-Chairman:- Councillor W. Wheatcroft.

Members:- Councillor L. A. Doxey.
" B. Gretton.
" N. Harrison.
" L. B. Musson.
" J. J. Slack.
" Miss A. V. Stafford
" J. W. Porter.
" I. A. Bunting.
" R. Brewer.

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PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health.
(a) Dr. W. S. G. Christie, M.B., Ch.B.

Sanitary Inspector.
(a) J. Taylor, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Water Superintendent.
F. Hall.

Clerk.
Miss E. M. Prince.

Rodent Operator.
Mr. Wm. Doxey. (Foreman).

(a) Salaries contributed to under Exchequer Grants.

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WIRKSWORTH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Report of the Medical Officer of Health for 1949.

Mr. Chairman and Members of the
Wirksworth Urban District Council.

I have the honour of presenting to you, my annual report for 1949.

Wirksworth, one time busy centre of Lead Mining, is situate in an agricultural area, which is largely milk-producing. The subsoil is of limestone character, and limestone quarrying forms one of the principal industries of the place. Several factories provide employment, mainly in tape-weaving, and to a lesser degree, in garment and hosiery manufacture.

It is the desire of the Council to attract new industries to the Area, and negotiations have been going on regarding a new factory site. Every endeavour is made to meet the requirements of a prospector, and encouragement shown towards the development of new undertakings.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (in acres) 4,015.
Population: Census(1939) 4,822
R.G. figures (1944) 4,514. (1945) 4,550. (1946) 4,643.
(1947) 4,684. (1948) 4,850. (1949) 4,875.
Number of Inhabited Houses, 1,523.
Number of Families or Separate Occupiers, 1534.
This figure is variable.owing to the post-war movement of population, and only a survey of the entire district would find out the exact population and separate families.
Rateable value, £22,112.
Sum represented by a Penny Rate, £87.1.2.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

			Total	Males	Females
Live Births -	Legitimate	-	73	40	33
	Illegitimate	-	3	2	1
Still Births -	Legitimate	-	1	-	1
	Illegitimate	-	-	-	-
	Birth Rate	-	Live Births 15.6.		
			Still Births 0.20.		

	Total	Males	Females
Deaths.	52	23	29

Death Rate - 10.6.

No. of Women dying in/or in consequence of childbirth - Nil.
From Sepsis - Nil. From other causes - Nil.

Death of Infants under 1 year of age:-

M F

Total - 1. Legitimate - 1 Illegitimate - 0.
Infantile Death Rate per 1,000 live births - 13.1.

England and Wales - Infantile Death Rate 32.
Birth Rate, Live - 16.7. Still - 0.39.
Death Rate - 11.7.

Deaths from Cancer	5
" " Measles	0
" " Whooping Cough	0
" " Diarrhoea (under two years of age)	0
" " Scarlet Fever	0
" " Diphtheria	0

TUBERCULOSIS.

Age Periods.	New cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0								
1								
5			1					
10								
15								
20	1							
25		1			1			
35	1							
45					1			
55								
65 & upwards.								
TOTALS	2	1	1	-	2	-	-	-

PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1925.

No action has been taken under these Regulations during the year.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925. Section 62.

No action has been necessary under this section during 1949.

The notification of Tuberculosis appears to be satisfactory.

Other Infectious Diseases notified (other than Tuberculosis) are shown in the following table:-

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases Admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Smallpox	None	None	None
Scarlet Fever	4	4	"
Diphtheria	None	None	"
Enteric Fever	"	"	"
Cerebro Spinal Fever	"	"	"
Puerperal Pyrexia	"	"	"
Pneumonia	12	1	"
Measles	3	None	"
Chickenpox	1	"	"
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	None	"	"
Erysipelas	"	"	"
Encephalitis Lethargica	"	"	"
Acute Polio-Myelitis	"	"	"
Whooping Cough	9	"	"

OPTHALMIA NEONATORUM

Notified	Treated in Hospital	Vision	Deaths
None	-	-	-

NURSING ARRANGEMENTS, HOSPITAL AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS AVAILABLE FOR THE DISTRICT.

HOSPITALS:

After the first quarter of the year, the once Cottage Hospital which, under the new Hospitals Scheme, was functioning as a small General Hospital, was converted into a Maternity Hospital of ten beds capacity. It draws its cases from a wide area and it is proposed to increase the number of beds to eighteen. It comes under the No.2 Hospital Management Committee of The Sheffield Regional Hospital Board.

The Royal Infirmary, Women's Hospital, Children's Hospital and City Hospital Derby, under the No.1 Hospital Management Committee of the same Regional Board, take cases from this district, and admissions are conducted on a bed-bureau system.

1. Professional Nursing in the Home.
   (a) General Nurse:- one, under the supervision of the County Authority.

2. Midwifery.
   (b) One Midwife - under the supervision of the County Authority.

3. Clinics and Treatment Centres.
   (a) Maternity - Centre at Matlock, under the control of the County Authority.
   (b) Child Welfare - Centre at Wirksworth, under the control of the County Authority.
   (c) School Clinics - Centre at Wirksworth, under the control of the County Authority.
   (d) Tuberculosis Clinic - Centre at Matlock, under the control of the County Authority.

4. Other Hospitals for the District.
   (a) Tuberculosis - Derbyshire Sanatorium, Nr. Chesterfield.
   (b) Maternity - Accommodation is provided at Darley Hall Maternity Hospital, Darley Dale, Matlock.
   (c) Infectious Cases - Heage Isolation Hospital, Heage.

5. Ambulance Facilities.

(a) Ambulance stationed at Matlock - nearest.
(b) Derby and District Ambulances available when necessary.

LABORATORY WORK.

Pathological and Bacteriological Examinations are made by the County Council Bacteriological Department.

Number of Specimens sent to the County Laboratory by private practitioners during 1949:-

	Positive	Negative	Total
Diphtheria	None	2	2
Enteric Fever	"	None	0
Phthisis	"	1	1
Miscellaneous	"	None	0
TOTALS	None	3	3

Diphtheria Immunisation.

This service is now carried out by the General Practitioners of the area. Children of School age are mainly treated at School or School Clinic by the School Medical Officers.

Vaccination.

This service also, is now delegated to the General Practitioners of the Area.

The only new regulation worth mention was that of Certifying Vaccination and Inoculation Certificates for people wishing to travel abroad. On one or two occasions it was found necessary for the Medical Officer of Health to authenticate these certificates and the Local Authority co-operated in this matter by making arrangements under which any person who desires to have a certificate of vaccination or inoculation authenticated for the purpose of travel abroad may have it stamped accordingly at the office of their Health Department.

LIST OF ADOPTIVE ACTS, BYELAWS AND LOCAL REGULATIONS RELATING TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH IN FORCE IN THE DISTRICT.

	Date of Adoption.
Infectious Disease (prevention) Act, 1890.	6th December, 1893.
Public Health (Amendment) Act, 1890. Part 111 (Subject to certain conditions as to Sects. 35 and 38 Order L.G.B. No.59992 of 22nd January, 1913).	5th March, 1913.
Public Health (Amendment) Act, 1907 (subject to certain conditions as to Sects 23, 27 and 30 Order L.G.B. No.63662, 29th May, 1915.)	12th July, 1915.

Bye-laws:-

New Streets and Buildings	- 1939
Common Lodging-Houses	- 1879
Nuisances	- 1879
Cleaning Footways, Removal of House Refuse and Cleaning Closets, Privies, Ashpits and Cesspools.	- 1879

Shop Acts, 1912 - 28	25th August, 1930.
do. 1934	26th November, 1934.
Offensive Trades Order of L. G. B. No. 63721, of 18th June 1915 confirming Council's Order of 26th April, 1915, containing list of offensive trades.	26th April, 1915.
Chicken Pox Compulsory Notification Order for Compulsory Notification.	22nd February, 1926
Public Health Act, 1925, Parts 11 to 1V, except Sections 21, 22 & 44.	2nd May, 1927.

Shops Acts, 1934, came into operation by adoption 1936.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER SUPPLY.

Throughout the whole of the year 1949 the water supplies both at Middleton-by-Wirksworth and Wirksworth itself were most satisfactory, and I think that this was due in no small part to the work of waste water detection carried out by the Council's Water Superintendent. Due to his efforts it was only necessary to run the Wigwell Borehole Pump from the 22nd of June, 1949 to the 18th of November, 1949, and even then only intermittently for a few days each week in order to top up the Reservoirs.

During 1949 the Ministry of Health held a Public Inquiry at Wirksworth to consider the question of approving a new scheme for the sinking of a borehole 250 feet deep near Hanson Farm, Longway Bank, Wirksworth. After evidence had been heard from all parties concerned, the Minister finally gave his approval to the scheme, and it is anticipated that in 1950 the trial borehole will be commenced. The Council trust that if this scheme is satisfactory then adequate water supplies for Wirksworth will be assured for many years to come, whatsoever may be the development of the Town.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

Following the Ministry of Health Inquiry, which was held at the Town Hall, Wirksworth, in 1948, regarding the extension of the existing Sewage Works at Derby Road, Wirksworth, after which the final approval of the Ministry of Health was received, the Council advertised the scheme and sought tenders for the carrying out of the work.

After all negotiations had been satisfactorily concluded, the tender of Messrs Bowmer and Kirkland of Heage was accepted for this work, and it is anticipated therefore that now the preliminaries are finally concluded, an early start will be made in the year 1950 with the extension of the existing Sewage Works at Derby Road, Wirksworth. The final cost of the improvements will be in the region of £25,000 to £30,000.

HOUSING.

As I intimated in my 1948 Report negotiations were in progress at the end of that year for new tenders in respect of Council Housing, owing to the collapse of the previous scheme under rather regrettable circumstances; the original builder being unable to carry out all his committments.

In 1949, however, the protracted negotiations were brought to a head and a new Contractor, namely Messrs George Shipman & Sons of Riddings, was appointed. Building on the partly completed Derby Road Housing Scheme and the Middleton Scheme was re-commenced and up to the end of December, 1949, the following new Council Houses were completed:-

Wirksworth (Derby Road Scheme) 6 "D" Type Houses.
Middleton (King Street Scheme)6 "D" Type Houses.

Private Housing.

In addition to the above, there have been two bungalows erected by Private Enterprise in the Urban District during the period under review. Two new Police Houses were also erected in Wirksworth during 1949 by the Derbyshire County Council.

GENERALLY.

I am pleased to be able to report that once again there was a very small incidence of Infectious Disease and during the whole of the year 1949 there were only four cases of Scarlet Fever notified, whilst there was not one case of Diphtheria notified throughout the whole area.

The number of other notifiable diseases can be seen from the previous tables.

Once again I am able to report that this Urban District does indeed enjoy a very clean bill of health and compares most favourably with other Urban Districts in this respect.

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

W.S.G. CHRISTIE,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

REPORT OF SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE WIRKSWORTH URBAN DISTRICT FOR THE YEAR 1949.

SANITARY INSPECTOR:- J. TAYLOR, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Wirksworth Urban District Council.

Madam and Gentlemen,

It gives me great pleasure to have the honour of presenting to you my fourth Annual Report.

It is pleasing to note that very early in the year 1949 after the very great difficulties which the Council had encountered in 1948 with their Housing Contracts, negotiations were brought to the stage when the Council were able to accept a new Tender from Messrs George Shipman and Sons of Riddings, for the completion of the Council Housing Schemes which had so disastrously broken down. The work was re-commenced at the earliest possible moment and by the end of 1949 a further twelve Council Houses had been completed out of the original schemes at Wirksworth and Middleton.

The final winding up of the old Contracts between the Council and the original Contractor (Mr.A. Lee) was of course by no means completed by the end of the year, and as these matters are always very protracted it is to be expected that it will be well towards the end of 1950 before the final settlement is made.

However, as I have intimated above the building work now continues and the Council are to be congratulated on having succeeded in bringing this difficult matter to the point where building is no longer at a standstill..

VISITS AND INSPECTIONS MADE 1949.

The following table of inspections made, notices served, and nuisances abated is appended for your information.

CLOSETS & ASHPITS.	No. of Inspections made by Sanitary Inspector	No. of Notices served		No. of Nuisances abated with or without notice
		Informal	Legal	
Defective Privies, Pail Closets and Ashpits (Not for Conversion)	1	2	-	1
Conversion of Privies into W.C's.	60	39	-	9
Conversion of Pail Closets into W.C's.	49	22	-	10
Conversion of Privies into Pail Closets.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Defective Water Closets.	39	36	-	37
Provision of Additional Water Closets.	25	19	-	8
Provision of Portable Ashbins	3	3	-	1
Dirty Closets.	4	3	-	1

DRAINAGE.				
No disconnection of Waste Pipe.	-	-	-	-
Defective Waste Pipe, Traps, Inlets and Drains.)	157	110	-	76
Drains obstructed.	78	66	-	55
OTHER DEFECTS.				
Paving of Courts and Yards.	56	37	-	24
Roofs, Eaves-Spouts and Down Spouts.	202	52	-	78
Sinks.	37	28	-	14
Insufficient Ventilation.	13	12	-	9
Windows.	39	28	-	27
Dampness.	62	44	-	30
Water in Cellars.	27	18	-	11
Water Supply.	116	76	-	49
Overcrowding.	-	-	-	-
Foul Condition of Houses.	2	2	-	1
Offensive Accumulations.	9	6	-	4
Animals improperly kept.	-	-	-	-
Pigsties.	2	4	-	1
Smoke Nuisances.	8	8	-	-
Urinals.	13	11	-	5
Nuisances not specified above.	295	204	-	116
Totals	1,297	830	-	567

	No. on Register	Inspections Made	Notices served.	Nuisances abated without Notice.
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops.	60	47	22	9
Bakehouses.	4	8	5	4
Slaughterhouses (with temporary Licences)	3	6	-	-
Offensive Trades.	-	-	-	-
Common Lodging-houses	-	-	-	-
Totals	67	61	27	13

STATISTICS FROM VALUATION LIST.

It is suggested that the following list of statistics will be of interest to the Council and these have been amended to date:

	No. of Hereditaments	R.V.
1. DOMESTIC.		
(a) R.V. not exceeding £10.	1021	6339
(b) R.V. exceeding £10 but not exceeding £13.	162	1981
(c) R.V. exceeding £13 but not exceeding £20.	215	3403
(d) R.V. exceeding £20.	56	1663
2. COMMERCIAL.		
(a) Shops	80	1770
(b) Other premises	44	957

3.	LICENSED PREMISES.	15	752
4.	ENTERTAINMENT & RECREATIONAL.	12	329
5.	PUBLIC UTILITY.	7	2700
6.	EDUCATIONAL & CULTURAL.	6	398
7.	INDUSTRIAL.	22	1108
8.	MISCELLANEOUS.	82	712
	Totals.	1722	22112

(3) No. of houses converted from Pail Closets, Privies, etc., to Water Closets during the year 1949 - 19.

No. of Pail Closets etc. converted to Water Closets during the past ten years.

Years -	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949
No. -	15	5	54	5	2	Nil	3	2	10	19

(4) Approximate Number of Houses at 31st December, 1949 with:-

(a) Privy Middens - 57
(b) Pail Closets - 106
(c) Water Closets - 1,341

(5) HOUSING.

Since 1947 I have continually remarked upon the difficulties experienced by Sanitary Inspectors in securing repairs and improvements to old properties. From the building licensing point of view, it was fortunate that the Ministry saw fit to allow a continuation of the £100 "free limit" scheme for repair and maintenance work, as this undoubtedly assisted the Council in the allocation of their small financial quota which was allowed them.

The mere removal of the building licensing restrictions did not in any way, however, assist the owners of old properties to carry out repairs and improvements, from the financial point of view and it is quite obvious that whilst Rent Restriction Acts remain as they are at present, then Sanitary Inspectors will continue to encounter great difficulties in securing an improved standard of accommodation for the tenants of these old houses. However much one endeavours to be fair and impartial upon these matters, yet it cannot be equitable for an owner to be forced to expend monies on old dilapidated houses when there can be no possible hope of his ever securing a return upon his outlay.

My department continued to be responsible for the checking and issuing of building licences, both for the construction of new houses, and for the repair of existing houses.

In respect of Council House property, the passing of the year 1949 merely tended to emphasize the point which I have previously made to you as regards the maintenance of this public property. At times it has been almost impossible to persuade Local Builders to carry out the necessary work within any reasonable period, and I am convinced that until the Council decide to appoint a Direct Labour Maintenance Staff, then they will continually have a very long outstanding list of repairs to their properties.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

W.S.G. CHRISTIE, M.B.Ch.B. (PART TIME. HALF SALARY CONTRIBUTED).

SANITARY INSPECTOR AND SURVEYOR.

J. TAYLOR, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A. (FULL TIME. HALF SALARY CONTRIBUTED).

HOUSING.

NO. OF HOUSES ERECTED DURING YEAR 1949.

1. By Private Enterprise - 2 & 2 Police Houses erected by D.C.C.

2. By Local Authority - 12.

1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR:-

(1)	(a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	170
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose.	416
(2)	(a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932.	3
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose.	11
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to Health as to be unfit for human habitation.	3
(4)	Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.	167

2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES:-

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers. 146

3. PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTION 11 AND 13 OF THE HOUSING ACT, 1936:-

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made.	3
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders.	-
(3)	(a) Number of houses demolished in anticipation of formal procedure under the Housing Act, 1936.	-
	(b) Number of dwelling-houses where undertakings were accepted.	-

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

(6) There are no Common Lodging Houses in the area.

TENTS, VANS & TEMPORARY STRUCTURES.

(7) In accordance with their previous policy, my Council have continued to exercise strict control over these structures, and with the full co-operation of all parties concerned, including the Town Planning Officer, it has once again been possible to prevent the growth of any unsightly shack development.

It should be made quite clear at this juncture, that my Council have no objections whatsoever to organised and licensed camping, which indeed is to be encouraged for the health of the nation.

It is to be regretted that the caravan colony on the Northern Outskirts of this Urban District to which I referred in my 1948 Annual Report has by no means been abated, but in fact appears to be growing, and although my Council have repeatedly made approaches to the adjoining Urban District concerned, yet I am afraid no real satisfaction has been obtained.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE & DISINFECTION.

(8) Once again during the year 1949 the Urban District enjoyed a reasonably clean bill of health, and it is gratifying to note that only four cases of Scarlet Fever were reported, whilst there was not one case of Diphtheria. Normal terminal disinfection was of course carried out in the four cases mentioned above together with disinfection of any other cases i.e. Cancer or Tuberculosis which the Medical Officer of Health thought it fit so to do.

DISINFESTATION.

(9) Once again I think it fair to state that the only serious infestations in this area are those caused by woodworms, and as I have previously pointed out this is to be expected in an area which has an abundance of old properties.

In every case the necessary appropriate action was taken and the Council's supply of Insecticides both in liquid and powder form were used whenever the occasion arose together with Pneumatic Syringes and Powder Blowers.

(10) WATER SUPPLY DURING THE YEAR, 1949.

MONTH	RAINFALL 1947 inches	RAINFALL 1948 inches	RAINFALL 1949 inches	YIELDS OF SPRINGS IN GALLS PER HOUR '1949.
January	3.53	No reading	1.65	8,284
February	4.03	2.16	1.40	7,290
March	7.08	1.07	1.88	5,880
April	2.88	2.03	2.73	5,786
May	2.48	1.90	2.06	7,010
June	1.76	3.51	0.69	5,207
July	2.40	1.51	3.36	3,877
August	0.65	6.06	2.06	3,089
September	1.94	2.24	1.42	2,940
October	0.43	2.04	4.46	2,641
November	3.22	1.80	4.29	2,893
December	3.13	5.01	3.38	7,594
Totals	33.53	29.33 Less Jan.	29.38	

(i) (a) In respect of quality the supplies were for the most part at all times suitable for drinking purposes and there were only four occasions throughout the year when the County Bacteriologist reported samples of water as unsuitable for drinking purposes, and then Dr. Iredale, the County Bacteriologist, pointed out that efficient chlorination should yield a water free from coliform organisms in 100 ml. The samples to which I refer occurred on 29/6/49 (two samples) and on 13/9/49 (two samples), and I think it fair to state that during the warm weather such as we experienced on these occasions, it is most difficult for the Water Superintendent to produce a water free from coliform organisms when such water is stored in open reservoirs, and having at his disposal only those means of chlorination which exist as at present.

(b) As already stated by the Medical Officer of Health in the earlier portion of this Annual Report the water supplies of both Middleton and Wirksworth itself were most satisfactory during the period under review as regards quantity and no shortage was experienced whatsoever.

(ii) Throughout the year frequent baceteriological and chemical examinations were made of both raw water at the works and the treated water before going into supply.

Fifty-four samples in all were submitted during the year to the County Analyst and Bacteriologist and as already stated in para (1) (a) above, only 4 of these were unsuitable.

The following are typical results selected from the remaining 50 samples:-

Lab.Ref.No.A655.

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Public Health Laboratory

County Offices, St. Mary's Gate,

Derby.

BACTERIOLOGICAL WATER REPORT.

Authority Wirksworth U.D.C.

Source of Sample Bungalow-Rise End, Middleton - Tap over sink.

Date of Receipt 3.11.49. Age in Hours $\frac{3}{4}$.

CL. WELCHII. Not Done.

PRESUMPTIVE COLIFORM COUNT.

Probable number of coliform bacilli present = Nil per 100 ml.

DIFFERENTIAL COLIFORM TEST.

Probable number of faecal B. Coli = ------ per 100 ml.

PLATE COUNTS:- Not Done.

Number of colonies in agar after 48 hours incubation at $37^{o}C$ = per ml.

Number of colonies in agar after 72 hours incubation at $20^{o}C$ = per ml.

Bacteriologically the sample of water is suitable for drinking purposes.

Date 7.11.49.

J. L. G. IREDALE.
County Bacteriologist.

Lab. Ref. No. A.656.

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Public Health Laboratory,

County Offices, St. Mary's Gate,

Derby.

BACTERIOLOGICAL WATER REPORT.

Authority Wirksworth U.D.C.

Source of Sample The Green, Middleton-by-Wirksworth.

Date of Receipt 3.11.49 Age in Hours ½.

CL. WELCHII. Not done.

PRESUMPTIVE COLIFORM COUNT.

Probable number of coliform bacilli present = Nil per 100 ml.

DIFFERENTIAL COLIFORM TEST.

Probable number of faecal B.Coli = ------- per 100 ml.

PLATE COUNT:- Not done.

Number of colonies in agar after 48 hours incubation at 37°C = per ml.

Number of colonies in agar after 72 hours incubation at 20°C = per ml.

Bacteriologically the sample of water is suitable for drinking purposes.

Date 7.11.49.

J. L. G. IREDALE.
County Bacteriologist.

Lab. Ref. No. A.657.

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL.

Public Health Laboratory

County Offices, St. Mary's Gate,

Derby.

BACTERIOLOGICAL WATER REPORT.

Authority Wirksworth U.D.C.

Source of Supply Tap over sink - Thorntree House, Cromford Rd. Wirksworth.

Date of receipt 3.11.49 Age in Hours ¼.

CL. WELCHII. Not done.

PRESUMPTIVE COLIFORM COUNT.

Probable number of coliform bacilli present = Nil per 100 ml.

DIFFERENTIAL COLIFORM TEST.

Probable number of faecal B. Coli = --------- per 100 ml.

PLATE COUNTS:- Not done.

Number of colonies in agar after 48 hours incubation at 37°C. = per ml.

Number of colonies in agar after 72 hours incubation at 20°C. = per ml.

Bacteriologically the sample of water is suitable for drinking purposes.

Date 7.11.49.

J.L.G. IREDALE.
County Bacteriologist.

Lab. Ref. No.A.658.

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL.

Public Health Laboratory,

County Offices, St. Mary's Gate,

Derby.

BACTERIOLOGICAL WATER REPORT.

Authority Wirksworth U.D.C.

Source of Sample 3 King Edward St. Wash Green - Tap over sink.

Date of Receipt 3.11.49. Age in Hours ¼.

CL. WELCHII. Not done.

PRESUMPTIVE COLIFORM COUNT.

Probable number of coliform bacilli present = Nil per 100 ml.

DIFFERENTIAL COLIFORM TEST.

Probable number of faecal B.Coli = ------- per 100 ml.

PLATE COUNTS:- Not done.

Number of colonies in agar after 48 hours incubation at 37°C = per ml.

Number of colonies in agar after 72 hours incubation at 20°C = per ml.

Bacteriologically the sample of water is suitable for drinking purposes.

Date 7.11.49.

J.L.G. IREDALE,
County Bacteriologist.

Ref. 8719/30.

County Offices,
St. Mary's Gate,
Derby.

7th November, 1949.

REPORT OF PUBLIC ANALYST.

Article:	Water.
Label or Description:	"Thorntree House" Cromford Rd. Wirksworth.
Submitted by:	J. Taylor Esq., Sanitary Inspector, Wirksworth U.D.C.
Subject of Examination:	Free Chlorine content.
Date of Receipt:	3rd November, 1949.

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS.

Free Chlorine ..... 0.08 part per million.

Signed R.W. SUTTON.

(iii) Samples of raw water were submitted to the County Analyst during the year for determination as to whether or not these waters possess any agressive action on metals, and the following is a copy of the County Analyst's Report upon these tests:-

County Offices,
St. Mary's Gate,
Derby.

24th January, 1949.

Ref. 8488, 8489, 8490/29.

Sample No.1 - Dunsley Spring water from Ram Feed, Via Gellia Pump House, Middleton-by-Wirksworth.
Sample No.2 - Spring water at discharge point, Middleton Reservoir, Middleton-by-Wirksworth.
Sample No.3 - Wirksworth Springs from measure chamber, Wirksworth.

I have examined the samples described as above which I received from you on the 19th of this month to determine whether or not the waters can be described as having any agressive action on metals. For this purpose the saturation index has been determined and the lead solvent action investigated by the method of Dr. Thresh. The following results were obtained:-

TABLE 1. Saturation Index.

	No. 1.	No. 2.	No. 3.
pH.			
Before treatment (pH)	8.0	7.05	8.15
After treatment (pHs)	7.75	8.6	8.35
Saturation Index (pH-pHs)	0.25	-1.55	-0.2
	Parts per 100,000.		
Dissolved Carbon Dioxide			
Before treatment	0.35	1.0	0.2
After treatment	0	0	0
Alkalinity			
Before treatment	16.5	4.0	11.25
After treatment	14.5	5.5	6.0

Saturation Index Table 1.

In table 1 are given differences in pH value, dissolved carbon dioxide and alkalinity before and after treatment with finely divided calcium carbonate. Apart from the pH values the figures represent parts for 100,000. The Saturation Index is the algebraic difference between the pH before and after treatment, i.e. pH - pHs. If this Index has a positive sign it shows that the original water was supersaturated with calcium carbonate, and such a water will not in general be corrosive. If the Index is zero it is an indication that the original water was in equilibrium. If it is negative, it usually indicates the presence of agressive carbon dioxide, and if more negative than about - 1.0, the water may be expected to be corrosive on wrought iron and steel.

From this test it is not likely that samples Nos. 1 and 3 would exert any agressive action on wrought iron and steel or galvanised tube, but sample No.2 may exert some attack.. Actually the proportion of dissolved carbon dioxide in this sample is not particularly high and I should not expect its agressive action to be marked.

TABLE 2. - Lead Solvency Test.

		No. 1	No. 2	No. 3
Reaction before contact with Pb	pH	8.0	7.05	8.15
" after "		8.2	7.55	8.45
		Parts per 100,000		
Oxygen present in untreated water		1.05	1.01	1.01
" " treated "		0.76	0.82	0.83
Oxygen used		0.29	0.19	0.18
Equivalent Pb oxidised		2.2	1.5	1.4
Total Pb in treated water		0.07	0.076	0.054
Pb in solution		0	0.02	0.01
Pb in suspension		0.07	0.056	0.044
Appearance of water		clear	clear	clear
Appearance of foil		small adherent deposit.	small adherent deposit	adherent deposit
Silica		0.3	0.95	0.3
Dissolved Carbon Dioxide		0.35	1.0	0.2

Table 2 gives the figures obtained in the usual lead solvency test. The test used is the one devised by Dr. Thresh, in which the water is placed in contact for 24 hours with strips of prepared lead foil having a clean bright surface. At the end of this time the lead in the water is determined and also any difference in the pH value or dissolved oxygen. Figures for dissolved silica and carbon dioxide are also included.

The results apart from pH values are expressed as parts per 100,000.

These results show the three waters to be capable of exerting some attack on a new lead surface, but the attack is not marked and there is some evidence of the formation of insoluble compounds which to some extent appear as an adherent deposit on the metal surface which would tend to reduce further action. In two instances a small amount of lead is found in solution, but the amount is not large and the total lead (including that in suspension) is not large in this rather stringent test.

Signed R.W. SUTTON.

County Analyst.

In view of the above reports it was not felt necessary for any precautions to be taken in respect of these three sources of water supply as regards plumbosolvent action.

(iv) The only unfit samples taken during the year were those four to which I have already referred and in each of these cases the necessary remedial measures merely consisted of raising the chlorine dosage to offset the amount of free chlorine lost in dissipation into the atmosphere from the open reservoirs. Further samples taken immediately afterwards proved the supplies to have been rendered wholesome.

(v) APPROXIMATE FIGURES FROM INFORMATION AVAILABLE.

(a) Number of Dwelling Houses supplied from Public Water Mains direct to houses	1,442.
(b) Number of Population supplied from Public Water Mains direct to houses	4,563
(c) Number of Population supplied from Public Water Mains by means of stand pipes	66
(d) Number of Dwelling Houses supplied from Public Water Mains by means of stand pipes	20.

REFUSE COLLECTION.

(11) The Council's Refuse Collection Vehicle makes a weekly collection of household and trade refuse; a charge being levied in the case of all trade refuse bins in excess of the first one, or alternatively tradesmen are permitted to take a load of refuse to the Council's Tip on payment of a fee of 2/- per load.

The Council ceased the collection of waste paper and cardboard from business premises and Schools in August as it was then found that despite repeated requests the waste paper merchants were unable to accept any deliveries to the mills. The Council eventually found themselves with a store full of rotting paper which was fast becoming a breeding place for rats and mice. Finally the Council were reluctantly forced to clear the store and burn the paper after which the old building was thoroughly cleaned out and disinfected.

I think it is to be regretted that after the efforts which the Council had made exhorting the Schools and other institutions to collect salvage for the Governments Salvage Drive they found themselves unable to dispose of the paper in question.

The Council continued to use the new Hopton Lane Tip and all the refuse from the Town of Wirksworth is now taken to this site.

In July, 1949 the Council placed an order with Karrier Motors Limited for the supply and delivery of one 10 cu.yd. Karrier Refuse Collecting Vehicle with a double cab and having 27" x 6" tyres - the vehicle to have a short wheel base, the body to be all steel. It was anticipated that delivery would take place at the end of 18 months and I shall personally welcome the arrival of this new vehicle which is now becoming most necessary.

The addition of a small utility vehicle for Highway duties would be a great asset to the Council, as it is now impossible with the growth of the district to allocate any of the Refuse Collecting Vehicle's time to any duties other than those for which it is intended. In fact the Council's Refuse Collecting Vehicle is now employed full time on this service and in addition an average of 2½ nights per week overtime.

Cost of Refuse Collection and Disposal for 1949.

Total Cost for Whole Year.	Cost per House for Whole Year.	Cost per Head for Whole Year.
	s. d.	s. d.
£1273. 10. 5	16. 8	5. 3

TOTAL COST PER HEAD PER WEEK FOR WEEKLY REFUSE COLLECTION:-

01.21d. per week.

(12) ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION - SMOKE ABATEMENT.

During 1949 there were no serious cases of smoke nuisance in the Wirksworth Urban District although the Pasteurising Plant to which I have referred in previous reports still caused some trouble from time to time. Unfortunately despite meetings and interviews with all parties concerned including the helpful advice and assistance rendered by Mr. Donaldson, the Area Manager of the East Midlands Gas Board, it has not been found possible to install a Gas Fired Boiler at this Plant, primarily owing to the cost. A new Coke Fired Boiler has been placed on order, and it is hoped when this is delivered there will be a great improvement from this Plant.

(13) RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919. INFESTATION ORDER, 1943, AND PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

The Council will welcome the coming into operation of the "Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949" with effect from the 31st March next year, on which date the Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919 is repealed. This new Act will accordingly strengthen the powers of Local Authorities and furnish them with the means of achieving radical improvements in the control of rats and mice.

During 1949 Mr. Toplis who had been the Council's Rodent Operator for some time resigned from this work and the duties were taken over by the Council's Foreman, Mr. William Doxey, who has now become most enthusiastic in this work. It is hoped during the next year, with the Council's approval to send Mr. Doxey on an approved Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries Rodent Control Course.

I should like at this point to thank the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries Rodent Inspector, Mr. Mulligan, for his wholehearted co-operation in this sphere of work, for he has always been most willing at all times to instruct the Council Foreman in the approved methods of Rodent Control. The relationship between this Council's Officers and the Ministry's Inspectors has at all times been most cordial and there is complete co-operation in this essential work.

(14) FOOD AND MEAT INSPECTION.

The whole of the meat for the Wirksworth Urban District during 1949 continued to be supplied from the Central Abattoir at Derby, and once more I would report that the Manager of the Wholesale Meat Supply Association at Derby has endeavoured to do all within his power to co-operate with me. As all animals are killed and the carcases inspected at the Derby Abattoir, I am not able to complete the table in the form set out in Circular 2/50 para. 8.

Unfortunately during the early part of the year my Council found themselves forced to "cross swords" with the Supply Agents in respect of imported beef allocated to the Wirksworth Area. The Butchers of Wirksworth complained that the beef allocated to them was of very poor quality indeed, and was in fact not fit to offer for sale to the Public unless in a manufactured condition. Your Medical Officer of Health and Sanitary Inspector carried out a joint inspection of the meat upon its arrival in Wirksworth and before its delivery to the various Butchers in the Town, and the fact was established that although the meat was not unfit for human consumption, yet it was dark, hard and looked most unappetising. The Wirksworth Butchers Association rejected this imported beef because they stated it would be an imposition to try and sell it to their customers. This incident received a tremendous amount of publicity both in the local and in the National Press, and whether or not it was as a result of this publicity, yet I am able to state that there was certainly a degree of improvement in the quality of meat supplied to Wirksworth afterwards.

The Council instructed me to write to the Ministry of Food registering a formal complaint regarding this meat allocation.

Inspections of Meat Shops, Slaughter-houses, Stalls and vehicles where food is prepared or conveyed have been carried out throughout the year, and whilst no legal action was found necessary there were many cases of voluntary surrender of unsound food by Shop Keepers in the area during 1949.

Following receipt of a Circular M.F.7/49 from the Ministry of Food the Council reviewed their arrangements in order to ensure that the provisions of Section 13 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, were being fully observed in respect of Meat Manufacturing Premises and that their powers under Sections 14 and 77 of the Act were being fully exercised. As a result of this I am very pleased indeed to be able to report that there has been a great improvement in the Meat Manufacturing Premises in this area, and although at the time of writing this report all

the premises have not yet been completely brought up to the standards required, yet I have no doubt that in the year 1950 this will be accomplished. The Council are, I think, to be congratulated upon their firm stand in this matter.

(15) FOOD POISONING OUTBREAKS.

1) Food Poisoning Notifications (Corrected) Returned to R.G.

1st Quarter Nil. 2nd Quarter Nil. 3rd Quarter Nil. 4th Quarter Nil. Total Nil.

2) Outbreaks due to Identified Agents.

Total outbreaks - Nil. Total cases - Nil.

Outbreaks due to:-

(a) Chemical Poisons - Nil.
(b) Salmonella Organisms - Nil.
(c) Staphylococci (including toxin) - Nil.
(d) Cl. botulinium - Nil
(e) Other bacteria- Nil.

3) Outbreaks of undiscovered cause.

Total outbreaks - Nil. Total cases - Nil.

4) Single Cases.

Agent identified - Nil. Unknown cause - Nil. Total - Nil.

5) Number of Deaths:- Nil.

(16) COWSHEDS AND DAIRIES
FOOD AND DRUGS (MILK AND DAIRIES) ACT 1944.
MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS 1949.

With the coming into operation on the 1st of October 1949 of the above Act and Regulations the powers and duties of the Wirksworth Urban Authority in relation to farms and cowsheds were transferred to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and the Ministry of Food acting jointly. The registration of dairy farms and dairy farmers became one of the duties of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and the power of the Local Authority has been reduced to enforcement and execution of the provisions of Regulations 18, 19 and 20 of the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949, together with the provisions of Regulation 8 which require the registration of Distributors of Milk. Up to the 1st of October, 1949, I continued to co-operate fully with the Milk Production Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Mr. Leslie, and I am pleased to state that our joint inspection of farms secured some very fine improvement. Forty-seven inspections of Farms, Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops were carried out during the year 1949.

The number of Accredited Milk Licences issued in the Urban District of Wirksworth by the Derbyshire County Council in 1949 before their powers were taken from them totalled 5 Accredited Licences.

Since the coming into operation of the new Regulations I have had visits from the new Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, and if there is any assistance which my Council can give to these Inspectors in the future, then it is

quite obvious that this will be done and that in so far as the Council Officials are concerned there will be full co-operation with the new Authorities now set up.

I continued to take the twice monthly samples of milk from the Licensed Pasteurising Plant in this district until the transfer of duties took place and in future these will now be collected by the Derbyshire County Council. I think it goes without saying almost that the relationships which exist between the County Sanitary Inspector of the Derbyshire County Council and your own Officials are most cordial and assistance has been forthcoming at all times from both sides. The results of all Pasteurised Milk Samples taken by me have been entirely satisfactory both for the Methylene Blue tests and the Phosphatase tests.

(17) FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

The following results and particulars of samples taken in this district on behalf of my Council by the Derbyshire County Council Food and Drugs Authority have once again been supplied to me by the County Analyst, Mr. R.W.Sutton, B.Sc., F.R.I.C., F.C.S.:-

47 Samples, including 21 Milks, were taken under the above Act in the area of the Wirksworth Urban District Council during the year 1949.

All the Milk samples were genuine.

An informal sample of "Monte Bianco" Processed Cheese was taken following a complaint from a purchaser that cheese of this make contained "pieces of glass". These "pieces of glass" turned out to be crystals of Sodium Phosphate.

Sodium Phosphate is one of the emulsifying salts used in the preparation of processed cheese, and there is no doubt that an excessive proportion had been used in cheese represented by the sample examined. The processed cheese was of Italian origin and the facts were therefore reported to the Ministry of Food. Further enquiries were made by the Ministry and later it was reported to me that all stocks of this cheese had been disposed of and that no further supplies of this brand were to be imported.

The remaining samples were all classed as satisfactory.

As in 1948, I should like once more to thank Mr.Clark, the Food and Drugs Sampling Officer of the Derbyshire County Council for his continued co-operation with me during the year at present under review. He has at all times been most ready and willing to assist in any way possible.

(18) FISH - FRYING PREMISES.

I have made twenty inspections on the Council's behalf of the three fish frying premises within this Urban District, and I have no complaints to report in respect of these shops.

The other new Fish Frying Establishment came into operation in this district in September of the year under review.

(19) ICE-CREAM
(HEAT TREATMENT) REGULATIONS, 1947.
ICE-CREAM REGULATIONS - FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

I am pleased to be able to report that regular inspections of the 10 premises registered for the manufacture and sale of ice-cream within the Urban District have shown no cause for complaint during the year. It is also very gratifying to the Medical Officer of Health and to me that the vendors of ice-cream are now all registered for the sale of individual pre-packed ice-cream blocks only and there is no loose ice-cream sold from registered premises except in one case where the cold-mix process is in operation. During 1949 I collected and submitted to the County Bacteriologist 20 samples of ice-cream for classification into provisional grades.

It was necessary for me to take up once again the question of various ice-cream samples with Sanitary Inspectors in adjoining areas i.e. those areas in which ice-cream was manufactured but sent into this district for sale. I have been able in all cases to secure effective co-operation with the Sanitary Inspectors of the Local Authorities concerned.

The classification of the samples which I have submitted from this district may be summarised as follows:-

(1)	Provisional	Grade 1	- 9	samples.
(2)	"	" 2	- 3	"
(3)	"	" 3	- 4	"
(4)	"	" 4	- 4	"

(20) FACTORIES ACT, 1937 & 1948.

The following summary of the annual report in respect of the year 1949 for the Urban District of Wirksworth in the County of Derbyshire sets out the prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Act, 1937:-

PART 1 OF THE ACT.

1. INSPECTIONS for purpose of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises (1)	M/c Line No. (2)	Number on Register (3)	Number of Inspections (4)	Number of Written notices (5)	Number of Occupiers prosecuted (6)	M/c Line No. (7)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	1	26	8	1	Nil	1
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	2	25	13	11	Nil	2
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises.	3	2	4	Nil	Nil	3
TOTAL		53	25	12	Nil	

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases").

Particulars	M/c Line No.	Number of cases in which defects were found.				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.	M/c Line No.
		Found	Remedied	Referred To H. M. Inspector.	Referred By H. M. Inspector.		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Want of cleanliness (S.1.)	4	Two	Two	Nil	Nil	Nil	4
Overcrowding (S.2.)	5	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	5
Unreasonable temperature (S.3.)	6	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	6
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4.)	7	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	7
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.)	8	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	8
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7.) (a) insufficient	9	One	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	9
(b) Unsuitable or defective	10	Three	Three	Nil	Nil	Nil	10
(c) Not separate for sexes.	11	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	11
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	12	One	Nil	Nil	One	Nil	12
TOTAL	60	Seven	Five	Nil	One	Nil	60

PART V111 OF THE ACT.

OUTWORK.
(Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Work.	M/c Line No.	Section 110			Section 111			M/c Line No.
		No. of Out-workers in August list required by Sect. 110 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists.	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices Served	Prosecutions	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
Wearing Apparel)Making etc)Cleaning and Washing	13	5	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	13
	15-44	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	15-44
TOTAL	70	5	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	70

It was once again found necessary to carry out further inspections under Section 34 of the Factories Act, 1937 for "Certificates as to Means of Escape in Case of Fire", and I have to report that at the end of 1949 there was still one outstanding case where the necessary Fire Escape had not been provided. This Factory is being regularly inspected by H.M. Inspector of Factories and by me, and I have hopes that the necessary Fire Escape will be installed during the coming year. Joint inspections with Mr. R.L. Lind, H.M. Factory Inspector proved most fruitful during 1949 and I should like once again to express my appreciation of his helpful collaboration.

(21) BAKEHOUSES.

On your behalf I have carried out eight inspections at the Bakehouses within this Urban District during the year 1949, and having regard to the age of some of the premises I think it fair to state that a reasonable standard of hygiene is being maintained. The actual structure of some of the Bakehouses is very far indeed from what may be desired, but I am afraid that in some instances the old Bakehouses are so congested and surrounded by other buildings that there is no room for the necessary expansion to bring them up to modern standards.

I should once again like to take this opportunity of expressing my thanks to the Medical Officer of Health and other chief Officials of this Council for their assistance and co-operation during the year under review and furthermore I should like to thank the Chairman and Members of the Council for their loyal support.

May I also express my appreciation of the services rendered by the Council Foreman, Mr. William Doxey, and the men under his control.

I am, Madam and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. TAYLOR,

Sanitary Inspector & Surveyor.